

Amendments to the claims

1-36. (Cancelled)

37. (New) A spelling for an ideographic symbol having a shape, comprising: a first component comprising alphanumerals providing a spelling of the phonetics of the ideographic symbol, a second component comprising alphanumerals providing an indication of the shape of the ideographic symbol, and a third component comprising at least one alphanumeral providing a unique identification of the ideographic symbol.

38. (New) The spelling of claim 37, wherein the ideographic symbol is a Chinese-language symbol.

39. (New) The spelling of claim 37, wherein the first component provides a sound portion and a tone portion of the ideographic symbol

40. (New) The spelling of claim 37, wherein the sound portion and the tone portion are Pinyin spellings .

41. (New) The spelling of claim 37, wherein the shape of the ideographic symbol is indicated by a four-corner numerical index.

42. (New) The spelling of claim 37, wherein the third component is a differentiator whose value is either null or one alphanumeral.

43. (New) The spelling of claim 37, wherein the alphanumerals are English-language letters and Arabic numerals.

44. (New) A table comprising a first column and a second column wherein the first column provides a plurality of spellings according to claim 37 and wherein the second column provides a plurality of the corresponding ideographic symbols.